

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ATHENS 00758 281733Z

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ACTION SS-25

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AMEMBASSY BONN

S E C R E T ATHENS 758

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:

SUBJ: GREEK WITHDRAWAL AND STATUS OF NAMFI

1. DURING MY JANUARY28 MEETING WITH FONOFF DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS JOHN TZOUNIS, HE BROUGHT UP AN IMMINENT PROBLEM GOG FOREWAS WITHIN NATO. FTER EXPRESSING GOG'S GENERAL DESIRE NOT TO CAUSE UNNECESSARY PROBLEMS FOR

NATO ACTIVITIES IN GREECE AT THIS TIME, AND, IN PARTICULAR, NOT TO INHIBIT OPERATION OF NAMFI, TZOUNIS EXPLAINED THAT STATUS OF NAMFI WAS EXPECTED TO ARISE IN A MEETING AT NATO FEBRUARY 3-5. TZOUNIS EXPLAINED THT GOG VERY MUCH PREFERRED THAT NAMFI NOT BE DISCUSSED. IF IT WERE RAISED, GOG WOULD HAVE TO MAKE A STATEMENT WHIC WOULD BE DIALTORY AND NOT BE AS HELPFUL AS CONTINUED SILENCE. TZOUNIS EXPLAINED THAT AURA OF AMBIGUITY WAS MOST HELPFUL TO MAINTAIN IN CURRENT, FORMATIVE PERIOD OF REDEFINING WITHIN GOG WHAT KIND OF RELATIONSHIP IT DESIRED WITH NATO. TZOUNIS ADDED THAT HE HAD RAISED WITH FRG AMBASSADOR ONCKEN SAME PROBLEM OF FEB 3-5 MEETING AND SOLICITED FRG'S SUPPORT IN KEEPING NAMFI QUESTION OUT OF DISCUSSION.

2. I EXPRESSED OUR DESIRE TO TRY AND BE HELPFUL IN THIS PROBLEM AS IN OTHER AREAS OF POTENTIAL DIFFICULTY

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DURING THIS PERIOD OF UNCERTAINTY REGARDING GREECE'S

FUTURE SECURITY RELATIONSHIPS.

3. I HOPE THAT USNATO, AS IT HAS SO EFFECTIVELY IN
OTHER RECENT INSTANCES, WILL BE ABLE TO CONCERT
WITH SYG LUNS, FRG AND, PERHAPS OTHER TO FORESTALL
DISCUSSION OF NAMFI DURING MEETING OF FEB 3-5.
KUBISCH

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NNN

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